(b) Government have received adequate cooperation from US Agencies in matters pertaining to terrorist activities targetting India. Government have no evidence to conclude that information as alleged in the CBC-TV documentary and reported in the Globe and Mail, was available with the US Government.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Projection of India's New economic reforms in various countries

1039. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI :
CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) what steps have been taken or are being taken to project India's new economic reforms in various countries :

(b) whether Indian embassies abroad are apprising foreign investors of such reforms:

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to set up new cells in Indian embassies abroad for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) : (a) The Government has taken a series of steps to propagate recent economic liberalisation among potential investors in foreign countries. These steps include :

(1) Instructions to our Missions abroad to undertake comprehensive and coordinated efforts to secure widest possible dissemination of information regarding steps taken by the Government to liberalise the economy.

(2) In order to enable Missions do the above effectively a composite media package has been provided to them for dissemination to potential investors. This package includes a variety of brouchures, a floppy diskette on the theme "Doing Business with India" and a video cassette entitled "India : Land of new opportunities" all of which contain extensive information on economic policies, procedures, application forms, etc.

(3) Establishing an interactive process by which Missions are provided up-to-date information about the economic reforms programme on a regular basis and the Missions in return provide feedback on investor response as well as the reaction of the international business community to the reforms.

(4) Idendification of a set of target countries from the stand point of our investment promotion efforts and organisation of seminars with the participation of representatives from the Government, apex organisations such as FICCI, CII etc. and the private industry.

(5) Organisation of special orientation programmes for senior and middle level officials in Missions abroad engaged in economic and commercial work so as to equip them promote India as an investment destination.

(6) Production of special supplements on India in international magazines

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

Promotions in Regional Pssport Offices

1040. SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI:
CHOWDDHRY HARI SINGH :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the employees of the Regional Passport Offices throughout the country come under the administrative control of the Ministry of External Affairs ;

(b) if so, whether there are two sets of rules prevalent for the Ministry of External Affairs employees and Regional Passport Office employees;

(c) whether the employees of the Ministry of External Affairs are given regular promotion in Group 'D' and 'C" whereas there have not been such promotions in the Regional passport Offices; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) : (a) The employees

of Passport Offices all over the country come under the administrative control of the Central Passport Organisation which is a subordinate office of the Ministry of External Affairs.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Both in the M.E.A. and in Passport Offices, promotions in Group 'D' and 'C, posts are given depending upon the availability of vacancies in each Group in respective cadres. Promotions of group D&C employees in the passport offices have been given subjece to availability of vacancies.

(d) Not applicable.

Visit of Uzbekistan President to India

1041. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that in his recent visit to India Uzbekistan's President pledged full support to India on its agenda for economical development;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what follow-up action Government are contemplating to obtain the maximum positive results out of the talks held between the Uzbekistan President and Indian leaders in thier regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. During his meetings with PM and the Finance & Commerce Ministers Uzbek President Karimov expressed his admiration for the success achieved by India in its economic liberalisation programme. Similar sentiments were expressed by him during his meetings with the Indian business community organised by the Confederation of Indian Industry.

(c) The Indian Government has offered to share our experience in liberalisation of the economy and managing the transition from the planned to the free market economy. India has offered training to Uzbek nationals for this purpose. Under our ITEC programme Uzbek nationals are being trained in banking, foreign trade, diplomacy etc. The Indian Government has also offered to send its experts to Uzbekistan.

U.N.A.'s stand over N.P.T.

1042. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have noted news reports that U.S. will treat India and Pakistan equally on N.P.T.;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether our viewpoint is being put across to other countries effectively; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA) : (a) Government has seen report submitted by President Clinton to the US Congress on 8th February 1994 titled "Progress Towards Regional Non Proliferation in South Asia" which states that US objective in South Asia is "first to cap then reduce and finally eliminate the possession of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery."

(b) Government remains committed to non-proliferation and has indicated willingness to work constructively with all like minded States for achieving genuine non-proliferation through disarmament agreements that are comprehensive in scope, universal in nature and non-discriminatory in character.

(c) and (d) In addition to participating in multilateral disarmament fora, Government has also undertaken bilateral discussions on disarmament related issues with a number of countries in order to have a frank exchange of views and convey our principle and consistent stand on the NPT.

China's Statement over freedom of Kashmir

1043. SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL :

SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALVIYA :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news appearing in Hindi newspaper 'Hindustan' dated 5th January 1994 captioned "China will not accept the freedom of Kashmir" ; and